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PLAN ORGANIZATION

The *2002 Kentucky Statewide Rail Plan* is organized as follows:

Chapter 1 – Introduction – This chapter discusses the purpose for preparing the rail plan, a brief history of the Kentucky Rail Program, and presents the goals and objectives established as part of this plan.

Chapter 2 – Freight Rail and Intermodal – This chapter defines the Kentucky rail system by describing the major characteristics of each operating freight railroad and key system wide trends and conditions.

Chapter 3 – Passenger Rail – This chapter highlights past and present Amtrak operations, current tourist/excursion rail lines, and passenger related rail studies.

Chapter 4 – Rail Issues – This chapter discusses the public involvement process undertaken as part of this plan development. In addition, it identifies national rail trends and other issues, such as increasing car weights and short line funding. Utilizing a questionnaire distributed to the active freight railroads, issues unique to Kentucky are identified.

Chapter 5 – Rail Safety – This chapter contains an overview of national and state highway-rail accident histories as well as an explanation of Kentucky's Grade Crossing Program. In addition, Chapter 5 addresses the role of legislation regarding rail safety.

Chapter 6 – Rails to Trails Program – The chapter discusses the Rails to Trails Program as it relates to the transportation network, defines the abandonment process, and describes recent studies undertaken to better identify abandonments within the state.

Chapter 7 – Recommendations – This chapter presents the recommendations as they relate to the established goals and objectives for the plan and the issues and concerns addressed throughout the plan document.

Appendix A – Glossary of Terms – This appendix defines the abbreviations used throughout the plan document.

Appendix B – Kentucky Statewide Rail Plan Contacts and Website References – This appendix provides contact information for operating railroads, Kentucky Transportation Cabinet officials, other local, state, and federal officials, and organizations promoting rail initiatives.

Appendix C – Railroad Commission Abolishment – This appendix provides full text copies of the Kentucky Revised Statutes (KRS) repealed as part of the abolishment of the Railroad Commission.

Appendix D – Miscellaneous Statutes – This appendix provides a copy of the statutes relating to a number of miscellaneous railroad items.

Appendix E – 603 KAR 7:090 Railroads – This appendix contains a copy of 603 KAR 7:090 detailing the requirements by all operating railroads within Kentucky to submit an annual report or equivalent document, map of active routes, notice of abandonments, and accident reports for those resulting in a fatality.

Appendix F – Rail Safety – This appendix provides full text copies of the KRS and Kentucky Administrative Regulations (KAR) that relate to rail safety, in particular those relating to at-grade highway-rail crossings.

Appendix G – House Bill 221 – This appendix provides a copy of House Bill 221 passed during the 2000 General Assembly. This bill relates to the Rails to Trails Program amending KRS to address issues such as trespass rules in regard to trail users and limiting trail owners liability.

Appendix H – Rails to Trails Program – This appendix provides full text copies of the KRS relating to the Rails to Trails Program, in particular, abandonment notification and rail banking.